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Committee on Information

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Draft report

V. Preparation and adoption of the report of the Committee on Information to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session

Draft resolution A

Information in the service of humanity

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,¹

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information,²

Urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

(a) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communication infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communication policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(b) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(c) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(d) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communication capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communication technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;



(e) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to the developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communication systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communication technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communication technology available on the open market;

(f) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication³ of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

Draft resolution B

United Nations public information policies and activities

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its decision to consolidate the role of the Committee on Information as its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

Concurring with the view of the Secretary-General that public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations, and that a culture of communications should permeate all levels of the Organization, as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, in which it established the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat;

[1.bis *Expresses its concern* that the gap in the information and communications technologies between the developed and developing nations has continued to widen and that most developing countries are not benefitting from the present inequitable information and technology order, and, in this regard, underlines the necessity of achieving a more equitable and effective global information and technology order that rectifies these imbalances;]

2. *Welcomes* Liberia and Mozambique to membership in the Committee on Information;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of its resolution 48/44 B of 10 December 1993 and other mandates as established by the General Assembly;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications,⁴ and encourages him to continue the reorientation exercise, while stressing the need to take into account the views of Member States, and requests him to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session, in May 2001;

5. *Welcomes* the initiatives that have been taken by the Department of Public Information to strengthen the public information system of the United Nations, and, in this regard, stresses the importance of a coherent and results-oriented approach being undertaken by the United Nations, the specialized agencies, and the programmes and funds of the United Nations system involved in public information activities and the provision of resources for their implementation;

6. *Emphasizes* that, through its reorientation, the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, including countries in transition, and that such reorientation should contribute to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

7. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on programme 23, Public information, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005,⁵ and, emphasizing that the implementation of the broad objectives outlined in the proposal should be in accordance with the objectives set forth in relevant General Assembly resolutions regarding questions relating to information, requests the Secretary-General to proceed with the submission of the proposal to the Committee for Programme and Coordination for consideration, taking into account the amendments made by the Committee on Information at its twenty-second session, in accordance with section I of General Assembly resolution 53/207 of 18 December 1998;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to focus, in particular, on educational institutions as key and indispensable partners of the United Nations in its efforts fully to inform the peoples of the world of its aims and activities;

9. *Appreciates and encourages* the efforts of the Department of Public Information in disseminating information to Member States regarding the promotion of women's rights and gender equality;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to strengthen the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information for the formation and day-to-day functioning of the information components of peacekeeping and other field operations of the United Nations, and requests the Secretariat to continue to ensure the involvement of the Department from the planning stage of such future operations through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other substantive departments of the Secretariat;

11. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information in the field of peacekeeping operations and its role in the selection process of spokespersons for United Nations peacekeeping

operations or missions, and, in this regard, encourages the Department to second spokespersons who have the necessary skills for fulfilling the tasks for the operations or missions;

12. *Encourages* the Secretary-General further to strengthen consultative arrangements between the Department of Public Information and other substantive departments of the Secretariat, in particular those dealing with development issues;

13. *Reaffirms* that United Nations information should continue to publicize the United Nations activities and accomplishments in the areas of economic and social development, poverty eradication, debt relief, health, education, elimination of illiteracy, women's rights, children's rights, the plight of children in armed conflict, the sexual exploitation of children, the eradication of drug trafficking and environmental issues, as well as other issues of relevance;

14. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Department of Public Information to the efforts of the Secretary-General in closing the digital divide as a means of spurring economic growth and as a response to the continuing gulf between developed and developing countries, and, in this context, requests the Department to further enhance its role;

15. *Recalls* its resolution 54/113 of 10 December 1999 concerning the proclamation of 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, and encourages the Secretary-General to strengthen the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information with a view to disseminating information on and drawing international attention to the Dialogue among Civilizations and the impact it could have on promoting mutual understanding, tolerance, peaceful coexistence and international cooperation;

16. *Welcomes* the decision taken by the Department of Public Information to launch a new web site to publicize the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement a promotional campaign to ensure that the Year of Dialogue among Civilizations will enjoy the broadest international support and to report thereon and follow up all activities in this respect to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session;

17. *Recalls* its resolutions 53/202 of 17 December 1998 and 54/254 of 15 March 2000, concerning the designation of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly as the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations and the convening, as an integral part of the Millennium Assembly, of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Millennium promotional campaign,⁶ and encourages him to continue to implement effective public information programmes in this regard so as to ensure that the outcome of the Summit is widely disseminated and enjoys broad international support;

18. *Emphasizes* that all publications of the Department of Public Information, in accordance with existing mandates, should fulfil an identifiable need, should not duplicate other publications of the United Nations system and should be produced in a cost-effective manner;

19. *Takes note* of the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General to make the Dag Hammarskjöld Library a virtual library with world outreach, making the United Nations information and other acquired materials accessible electronically to a growing number of readers and users, and, at the same time, requests him to enrich the stock of books and journals in the Library, including publications on peace and security and development-related issues, to ensure that it continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities;

20. *Welcomes* the development of the United Nations News Service by the Department of Public Information, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations web site and the United Nations News Service, contain comprehensive, objective and equitable information about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

21. *Takes note* of the efforts of the Secretary-General in ensuring access for the representatives of Member States to the briefings organized at Headquarters by the Office of the Spokesman for the Secretary-General and in ensuring wider outreach of

the outcome of such briefings, and requests him to consider taking further measures in this regard;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that information presented to the media is made available to delegations fully and in a timely fashion;

23. *Reaffirms* the importance attached by Member States to the role of United Nations information centres and information components in effectively and comprehensively disseminating information in all parts of the world, in particular in developing countries and countries in transition, and especially in those countries where there is need for a better understanding of United Nations activities;

24. *Also reaffirms* the importance of all United Nations information centres meeting the primary objectives outlined by the Committee on Information in its report on its ninth session;⁷

25. *Emphasizes* that resources should be commensurate with the mandated programmes and activities of the United Nations information centres to ensure their full and effective implementation, expresses deep concern over the reduction of more than 40 per cent in the staffing of the information centres between the early and closing years of the last decade, and, in this context, acknowledges the generous contributions by several host Governments, as well as the partnership with the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations system and local partners, to maintain the present level of operations of the information centres;

26. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations information centres,⁸ requests the Secretary-General to continue the integration policy in a cost-effective manner and, whenever feasible, on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the views of the host country and ensuring that the information functions and the autonomy of United Nations information centres are not adversely affected, so as to meet the stated objective of the policy to improve the provision of information by the United Nations, and, in this regard, requests him to continue with his efforts to address the problems that affect the centres;

27. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the integration of United Nations information centres with field offices of the United Nations Development Programme,⁹ requests him to

implement the views and opinions of the host Governments concerned as expressed in their replies to the questionnaire provided by the Secretariat, and also requests him to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session on the steps taken in this regard;

28. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the guidelines for the functioning of the United Nations information centres integrated with the field offices of the United Nations Development Programme;¹⁰

29. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in relation to the opening of new United Nations information centres, invites the Secretary-General to make such recommendations as he may consider necessary regarding the establishment and location of such centres, and, in this regard, welcomes the requests by Croatia, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica and Kyrgyzstan for information centres or information components;

30. *Stresses* the need to revitalize the centres that are currently not operational, for which requests have already been made by the countries concerned;

31. *Recalls* resolution 54/82 B of 6 December 1999, which requested the Secretary-General to continue to study ways and means of rationalizing and effecting equitable disbursement of valuable resources to United Nations information centres, notes with great concern the existing imbalance in the available resources to United Nations information centres in developing and developed countries and that, given the importance of this matter, more information is needed, and requests the Secretary-General to examine the situation thoroughly, taking into account all relevant factors, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to look into the possibility of appointing directors to those United Nations information centres that are not yet integrated and are under the temporary management of offices of the United Nations Development Programme to ensure the autonomous status of the centres;

33. *Welcomes* the action taken by some Member States with regard to providing financial and material support to United Nations information centres in their respective capitals, and invites the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information, to

consult Member States, where appropriate, on the possibility of providing the centres with additional voluntary support on a national basis, bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial requirements for the United Nations information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

34. *Recognizes* the continuing enhanced cooperation between the Department of Public Information and the University for Peace in Costa Rica as a focal point for promoting United Nations activities and disseminating United Nations information materials, and requests the Secretary-General to report on those activities;

35. *Expresses* its full support for wide, accurate, equal and prompt coverage of United Nations activities through the continuation and improvement of United Nations press releases, which should bring out the intergovernmental aspect of the Organization's work and deliberations, stresses the importance of having these press releases issued in all official languages of the United Nations, and requests other relevant bodies of the General Assembly to give due consideration to this matter;

36. *Stresses* that radio is one of the most cost-effective and far-reaching media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, such as development and peacekeeping, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/44 B;

37. *Encourages* an increase in the number of programmes of United Nations radio, in all available languages, on the United Nations web site;

38. *Takes note* of the efforts under way by the Department of Public Information to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages, and, in that regard, stresses the need for impartiality and objectivity concerning information activities of the United Nations;

39. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue to include in its radio and television programming specific programmes addressing the needs of developing nations;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 38/82 B of

15 December 1983 with regard to the introduction of full programming in French and Creole in the work programme of the Caribbean Unit of United Nations Radio;

41. *Welcomes* the progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the pilot project for the development of an international radio broadcasting capacity for the United Nations¹¹ and the redeployment of the necessary resources for this purpose;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the twenty-third session of the Committee on Information a progress report on the results of the implementation of the pilot project, and declares its intention to examine before the end of 2001 and upon submission by the Secretary-General, the final report on the results of the project with a view to taking a decision on the matter during its fifty-sixth session;

43. *Urges* the Secretary-General to maintain and enhance the managerial capacity, staff resources, programme output and means of delivery of United Nations radio in the six official languages and, if feasible, in other languages, in order to ensure the success of the radio pilot project and, to this end, enhance coordination with the United Nations News Centre and the United Nations information centres, as well as the cooperation with national and international radio organizations in Member States;

44. *Underlines* the continuing importance of using traditional and mass media channels to disseminate information on the United Nations, and encourages the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information, to continue to take full advantage of recent developments in information technologies, including the Internet, in order to improve, in a cost-effective manner, the dissemination of information on the United Nations, in accordance with the priorities established by the General Assembly and taking into account the linguistic diversity of the Organization;

45. *Takes note* of the efforts by some United Nations information centres to establish their own web pages in local languages, and, in this respect, encourages the Department of Public Information to provide resources and technical facilities to develop web pages in the respective local languages in their host countries, in particular to those United Nations

information centres whose web pages are not yet operational;

46. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to coordinate and rationalize the content of web pages of United Nations information centres using the same language in order to enhance the information services with a view to avoiding overlap and repetition;

47. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the multilingual development, maintenance and enrichment of United Nations web sites,¹² encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to develop and enhance the United Nations web sites in all official languages of the Organization, and requests him to continue to develop proposals for consideration by the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session, having in mind the building of modular parity leading to the ultimate goal of achieving full parity among the official languages;

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report, requested in paragraph 47 above, guidelines for content planning and publication on the United Nations web sites;

49. *Stresses* the importance of access to the United Nations treaty collection and the United Nations parliamentary documentation for the public, and commends the initiative of the Secretary-General to make the parliamentary documentation of the Organization available through the United Nations web site in the official languages;

50. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Department of Public Information for conducting the ongoing programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries in transition, and calls for its further expansion so as to include a larger number of trainees from developing countries;

51. *Acknowledges* the important work carried out by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its collaboration with news agencies and broadcasting organizations in developing countries in disseminating information on priority issues;

52. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue to ensure the greatest possible access for United Nations guided tours and to ensure that displays in public areas are kept as informative,

up-to-date, relevant and technologically innovative as possible;

53. *Recalls* its resolutions concerning the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular resolutions 51/138 B of 13 December 1996 and 52/172 of 16 December 1997, and encourages the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of the consequences of that disaster;

54. *Recalls also* its resolution 53/1 H of 16 November 1998, concerning international cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan, which has been affected by nuclear tests, and encourages the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of the problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region;

55. *Recalls* its resolutions 53/59 B of 3 December 1998 and 54/82 B, and urges the Department of Public Information to take the necessary measures, through the provision of relevant and objective information, towards achieving the major objectives set forth in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, and to publicize the activities of the open-ended working group established for that purpose;

56. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution;

57. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

58. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

Notes

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 21 (A/55/21).*

² A/54/415.

³ See *United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Records of the General Conference, Twenty-first Session, Belgrade, 23 September to 28 October 1980*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. III.4, resolution 4/21.

⁴ A/AC.198/2000/2.

⁵ A/AC.198/2000/8.

⁶ A/AC.198/2000/10.

⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 21 (A/42/21)*, sect. III.D, recommendation 36.

⁸ A/AC.198/2000/3-5.

⁹ A/AC.198/2000/3.

¹⁰ A/AC.198/2000/4.

¹¹ A/AC.198/2000/6.

¹² A/AC.198/2000/7-A/AC.172/2000/4.

I. Introduction

1. At its thirty-fourth session, the General Assembly decided to maintain the Committee to Review United Nations Public Information Policies and Activities, established under Assembly resolution 33/115 C of 18 December 1978, which would be known as the Committee on Information, and to increase its membership from 41 to 66. In paragraph 2 of section I of its resolution 34/182 of 18 December 1979, the Assembly requested the Committee on Information:

“(a) To continue to examine United Nations public information policies and activities, in the light of the evolution of international relations, particularly during the past two decades, and of the imperatives of the establishment of the new international economic order and of a new world information and communication order;

(b) To evaluate and follow up the efforts made and the progress achieved by the United Nations system in the field of information and communications;

(c) To promote the establishment of a new, more just and more effective world information and communication order intended to strengthen peace and international understanding and based on the free circulation and wider and better balanced dissemination of information and to make recommendations thereon to the General Assembly”;

and requested the Committee on Information and the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its thirty-fifth session.

2. At its thirty-fifth session the General Assembly, in its resolution 35/201 of 16 December 1980, expressed its satisfaction with the work of the Committee on Information, approved the report of the Committee and the recommendations of its Ad Hoc Working Group,¹ reaffirmed the mandate given to the Committee in Assembly resolution 34/182 and decided to increase the membership of the Committee from 66 to 67. The Committee on Information agreed, at its organizational session in 1980, that the principle of geographical rotation would be applied to all the officers of the Committee and that they should be elected for two-year terms of office.

3. At its thirty-sixth to fifty-first sessions, the General Assembly again expressed its satisfaction with the work of the Committee on Information, approved

the reports of the Committee² and its recommendations and reaffirmed the mandate given to the Committee in its resolution 34/182 (Assembly resolutions 36/149 B, 37/94 B, 38/82 B, 39/98 A, 40/164 A, 41/68 A, 42/162 A and B, 43/60 A and B, 44/50, 45/76 A and B, 46/73 B, 47/73 B, 48/44 B, 49/38 B, 50/31 B and 51/138 B). At its fifty-second session the Assembly took note of the report of the Committee³ and adopted consensus resolutions 52/70 A and B of 10 December 1997. At its fifty-third session the Assembly took note of the report of the Committee⁴ and adopted consensus resolutions 53/59 A and B of 3 December 1998. At its fifty-fourth session, the Assembly took note of the report of the Committee⁵ and adopted consensus resolutions 54/82 A and B of 6 December 1999.

4. At its thirty-ninth session the General Assembly appointed two new members of the Committee — namely, China and Mexico; at its forty-first session the Assembly appointed Malta as a new member of the Committee; at its forty-third session, the Assembly appointed Hungary, Ireland and Zimbabwe; and at its forty-fourth session, the Assembly appointed Nepal as a new member.

5. At its forty-fifth session, the Assembly decided, on the recommendation of the Committee on Information, to increase the membership of the Committee from 74 to 78 members, and appointed Czechoslovakia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica and Uruguay as members. The Assembly also decided to appoint the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic as a member of the Committee, with immediate effect, to fill the vacancy left by the German Democratic Republic.

6. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly decided, on the recommendation of the Special Political Committee, to increase the membership of the Committee from 78 to 79 members, and appointed Burkina Faso as a member.

7. At its forty-seventh session, the General Assembly decided, on the recommendation of the Committee, to increase the membership of the Committee from 79 to 81 and appointed the Republic of Korea and Senegal as members.

8. At its forty-eighth session, the Assembly decided, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), to increase the membership of the Committee from 81 to 83, and appointed Gabon and Israel as members.

9. At its forty-ninth session, the General Assembly decided to increase the membership of the Committee from 83 to 88, and decided to appoint Belize, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Kazakhstan and South Africa as members.

10. At its fiftieth session, the General Assembly decided, on the recommendation of the Committee, to increase the membership from 88 to 89, and appointed the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a member.

11. At its fifty-second session, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), decided to increase the membership of the Committee on Information from 89 to 90 members, and to appoint Georgia as a member.

12. At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), decided to increase the membership of the Committee from 90 to 93 members, and to appoint Angola, the Republic of Moldova and Solomon Islands as members. At its fifty-fourth session, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), decided to increase the membership of the Committee on Information from 93 to 95 members, and to appoint Liberia and Mozambique as members.

13. The Committee is composed of the following Member States:

Algeria	Costa Rica	France
Angola	Côte d'Ivoire	Gabon
Argentina	Croatia	Georgia
Bangladesh	Cuba	Germany
Belarus	Cyprus	Ghana
Belgium	Czech Republic	Greece
Belize	Democratic People's	Guatemala
Benin	Republic of Korea	Guinea
Brazil	Democratic Republic	Guyana
Bulgaria	of the Congo	Hungary
Burkina Faso	Denmark	India
Burundi	Ecuador	Indonesia
Chile	Egypt	Iran (Islamic
China	El Salvador	Republic of)
Colombia	Ethiopia	Ireland
Congo	Finland	Israel

Italy	Philippines	Trinidad and Tobago
Jamaica	Poland	Tunisia
Japan	Portugal	Turkey
Jordan	Republic of Korea	Ukraine
Kazakhstan	Republic of Moldova	United Kingdom of
Kenya	Romania	Great Britain and
Lebanon	Russian Federation	Northern Ireland
Liberia	Senegal	United Republic of
Malta	Singapore	Tanzania
Mexico	Slovakia	United States of
Mongolia	Solomon Islands	America
Morocco	Somalia	Uruguay
Mozambique	South Africa	Venezuela
Nepal	Spain	Viet Nam
Netherlands	Sri Lanka	Yemen
Niger	Sudan	Yugoslavia
Nigeria	Syrian Arab	Zimbabwe
Pakistan	Republic	
Peru	Togo	

II. Organizational questions

A. Opening of the session

14. The organizational meeting of the twenty-second session of the Committee on Information was held on 1 May 2000 at United Nations Headquarters. The session was opened by the Chairman of the Committee, Elhassane Zahid (Morocco).

B. Election of officers

15. To fill the unexpired post of Rapporteur, the Committee elected by acclamation Yayan G. H. Mulyana (Indonesia), who had been nominated by the Asian Group. The officers of the Committee on Information for the period 1999-2000 are thus as follows:

Chairman:

Elhassane Zahid (Morocco)

Vice-Chairmen:

Holger Martinsen (Argentina)

Ivan Nimac (Croatia)

Peter Mollema (Netherlands)

Rapporteur:

Yayan G. H. Mulyana (Indonesia)